

Application No. 10/669,903

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for conveying sheets, comprising:
a transport, the transport comprising a first flat member and a second flat member disposed substantially parallel to the first flat member, a gap between the first flat member and second flat member forming a path suitable for movement of sheets therethrough, the path being disposed substantially vertically;

~~the second flat member being movable relative to and~~ the first flat member being movable relative to each other to release a sheet disposed in the path;

a hinge attached to at least one of the first flat member and the second flat member, to effect moving of the first flat member relative to the second flat member; and

a bottom structure, disposed at a bottom of the transport, for causing an edge of a sheet landing thereon to be inclined, wherein a sheet released from the path drops to the bottom structure and contacts the bottom structure so that an edge of the sheet is inclined away from the hinge.

2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, the bottom structure including an inclined ramp.

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, the bottom structure including a tipping member.

4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 3, the tipping member including a rod.

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5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising
at least one set of rollers mounted on at least one of the first flat member
and the second flat member, the rollers operatively disposed in the path and
engaging a sheet moving through the path.
6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising
at least one on-ramp for inserting a sheet into the path.
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising
a marking engine, for receiving a sheet in the path and placing an image
thereon.
10. (New) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the marking engine includes
a xerographic photoreceptor.
11. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the transport is configured to
facilitate a sheet moving substantially vertically therethrough.
12. (New) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the transport is configured
to facilitate a sheet moving substantially upwardly therethrough.